

027
P852R
1896/97

Portland Me.

Annual Report of Trustees of
Public Library

1897

Z
584
706

Gift of
O. M.

The University of Chicago
Libraries



Exchange Duplicate

Z 584.706

REMOVED

Wt

Annual Report

OF THE

Trustees of the
Public Library,



Portland, Maine,

1896=97

THE LIBRARY OF THE

SEP 8 1955

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016

CITY OF PORTLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT

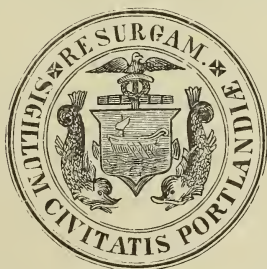
OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

Me
Portland Public Library,

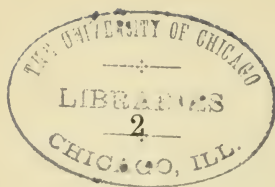
For the Year ending March 31, 1897.



PORTLAND, ME.:

WILLIAM M. MARKS, PRINTER.

1897.



Z733
.P69

REPORT OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY.

TRUSTEES.

FRANKLIN R. BARRETT,	MARQUIS F. KING,
JAMES P. BAXTER,	THOMAS S. LAUGHLIN,
JOHN A. BELLOWES,	CHARLES F. LIBBY,
ALBERT W. BRADBURY,	EDWARD A. NOYES,
HUBBARD W. BRYANT,	LORENZO D. M. SWEAT,
EPHRAIM C. CUMMINGS,	JOSEPH W. SYMONDS,
HENRY DEERING,	THOMAS L. TALBOT,
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	BENJAMIN THOMPSON,
FRANCIS H. FASSETT,	JOSEPH P. THOMPSON,
JOHN P. HOBBS,	VIRGIL C. WILSON.

PRESIDENT.

JAMES P. BAXTER.

SECRETARY.

VIRGIL C. WILSON.

TREASURER.

Exchange Duplicate

EDWARD A. NOYES.

LIBRARIAN.

ALICE C. FURBISH.

CATALOGUER.

HATTIE M. LEACH.

ASSISTANTS.

ELLEN G. MOULTON,	ALICE J. LIBBY,
MARY E. GILES,	ELLEN C. EATON,
LILLIAN STOCKMAN.	

JANITOR.

FRED. E. WHITNEY.

P.2004

027
P852R
1896/97

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

GENTLEMEN:—It is gratifying to me to be able to report a continued growth and increased use of the library by our citizens, and especially of the reference department. It is also encouraging to observe that the pupils of the public schools are availing themselves more and more of its benefits.

It was originally designed to encourage as much as possible the use of the library by the youth of the town, and for this purpose a room was provided for them in the basement. Unfortunately this room proved unsuitable and was devoted to other uses. The necessity for such a room however has been felt, and when the new addition to the library is completed, as it will be in a few weeks, it will be fully supplied.

I regret to be obliged to call attention to the frequent mutilation of books. It would seem that no person could be so lost to decency as to mutilate books, the use of which is generously furnished, free of cost, and it is to be hoped that there will be no further occasion for complaint in this particular.

With the new addition to the stack room, which will more than double our present shelf capacity, and with the considerable increase of our funds by the Farrington bequest, the library should grow much more rapidly than in the past, and

thereby become a more important factor in the intellectual progress of our city.

For particulars concerning the library during the year past, the increase of books, their comparative circulation and use in the building, as well as for other interesting statistics, I would respectfully refer you to the librarian's report.

Respectfully,

JAMES P. BAXTER.

PORTLAND, April 13, 1897.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, YEAR
ENDING APRIL 1, 1897.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from old account,	\$2,287.63
From City of Portland,	6,000.00
“ State of Maine,	600.00
“ Sawyer fund,	709.15
“ Librarian,	270.00
“ Bequests,	60.00
“ Athenæum building,	921.38
“ Walker fund—for stack building,	20,566.72
Interest,	9 10
	<hr/>
	\$31,423.98

EXPENDITURES.

Salaries,	\$3,448.75
Athenæum building,	1,096.11
Walker fund, acct. land and stack building,	16,439.46
Sawyer fund, taxes and repairs,	94.59
Sawyer fund, books,	\$ 410.98
Books, general fund,	1,432.84
Bequest, books,	8.00 1,851.82
Binding,	632.46
Periodicals,	353.85
Catalogue,	2.00
Building,	205.50
Lighting,	600.00
Heating,	373.48
Incidentals,	159.48
Balance to new acct. (Sawyer and Walker funds only),	6,166.48
	<hr/>
	\$31,423.98

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

To the Trustees of the Portland Public Library :

GENTLEMEN:—The statistics for the year ending March 31, 1897, show an encouraging condition of the library, as regards both its growth and its activities.

ACCESSIONS.

1,747 volumes have been added and 322 withdrawn, giving a net gain of 1,425 and making the total number of volumes in the library at the present time 43,008. Of the 1,747 accessions, 1,225 were added by purchase, 283 by gift and 227 by binding, while two books which were last year reported to be lost from the reference room have been found and re-entered.

Over 100 volumes have been added to the reference department, and our rather meager collection of French and German literature has been enriched by 273 volumes. 409 volumes of fiction have been purchased, about 100 of history and biography, and the departments of travel, literature, sociology and religion have all been strengthened. Among the noteworthy purchases may be mentioned, *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War* (4 vols.), *One Hundred Years of American Commerce* (2 vols.), *History of Banking* (4 vols.), *Williamson's Bibliography of Maine* (2 vols.), *Harper's Dictionary of Classical Antiquities*, *Prime's Pottery and Porcelain*, *Muther's History of Modern Painting* (3 vols.), *Longfellow's Cyclopædia of Architecture*, *Mackenzie's Castles of England* (2 vols.), *Jesuit Relations* (4 vols.) and *Appleton's Scientific Library* (60 vols.).

The *National Cyclopædia of Biography* (6 vols.) and *New England Manufacturers and Manufactories* (2 vols.), given by an unknown friend in our city, are useful additions to the reference department.

Another "unknown friend" has recently sent to us from

Kansas City two books, which should perhaps be accounted as gifts, although many years ago they were the property of the Portland Institute and Public Library. They are Soule's *Synonymes*, and the *Carmina Selecta* of Horace, published in Brussels in 1779. The stamp and shelf numbers on the books show that they were borrowed some twenty years ago. They were returned by express (prepaid) without explanation or thanks.

There have been added to the list of current periodicals, *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, *Cumulative Index of Periodicals*, *New World*, *Outlook*, *Public Libraries*, *Saturday Review*, *Great Round World*, and duplicate copies of *St. Nicholas*. Gifts of several volumes of the *Nation* and *Appleton's Journal* have enabled us to complete those sets. Our bound periodicals now number about 4,600 volumes.

REGISTRATION.

1,346 new cards have been issued, making a total registration of 14,929. 109 teacher's cards are in use, 17 of which were issued during the past year.

The change of the age limit from 14 to 12 years has put cards into the hands of many children who before used those belonging to older members of their families. It is much better for each child to have his own card, as the sense of ownership develops a feeling of responsibility and wholesome pride.

CIRCULATION.

88,036 books have been delivered for home use,—the gain over last year's circulation being 1,767. The average daily circulation was 289 volumes. The largest number delivered in one day was 685 (March 6), the smallest number 101 (Dec. 16). As usual, March was the busiest month, 9,303 volumes being issued, while the record for May shows the smallest circulation,—5,805 volumes.

There has been a slight decrease in the percentage of adult and juvenile fiction circulated, and a correspondingly small gain in other classes.

8 books have been lost in circulation, 4 of which have been paid for, and 24 have been burned by the health officer.

1,098 written notices and 25 calls have been required to secure overdue books.

651 volumes have been rebound, 3,982 repaired at the library, and 9,785 covered or labeled.

REFERENCE ROOM AND READING ROOM.

The large number of students who daily gathered in the reference room offer the best possible testimony to the growing popularity and usefulness of this department. For the last three years the number of visitors recorded has been respectively, 16,051, 19,822 and 21,431. For the last twelve months the library use of books, exclusive of reference books proper, has been 41,849 against 37,693 for the previous year. A catalogue of the subjects investigated, and a list of questions asked, would make very interesting reading, viewed as an index to the thought and interests of our people.

Pupils from the high and grammar schools are making more frequent and more intelligent use of this room than ever before, and it is a pleasure to testify to the courteous behavior of these young people, and to the friendly and appreciative spirit with which they meet our efforts to help them.

The fact that five books have been taken from the shelves proves the presence of dishonest persons in our midst. The missing books are Sailor's Handy Book, Revised Navy Regulations, Walsh's Literary Curiosities, Postage Stamp Catalogue and a small French Dictionary.

No record of the reading room attendance has been kept, but, as has been the case in former years, the room has proved far too small to accommodate comfortably the many readers, old and young, who have gathered there each day to

enjoy the generous supply of papers and magazines furnished for their use.

CATALOGUES, ETC.

About 10,000 cards have been added to the two catalogues, bringing each up to date. Monthly bulletins have been posted in the library, and lists of the new books have each month been printed in two or more of the local papers.

The United States government documents have been checked and numbered according to the check list furnished by the superintendent of documents and calls for these works can be more easily and quickly answered than was possible before.

It is recommended that as soon as practicable the work of rearranging the fiction by authors, and making a fiction list be undertaken. As a preparatory step, it would be well to weed out such novels as have outlasted their usefulness.

Respectfully submitted,

ALICE C. FURBISH,

Librarian.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Total number of volumes in the library,	43,008
Volumes added during the year,	1,747
Volumes condemned,	275
Volumes destroyed by Health Officer,	24
Volumes lost,	13
Volumes bound,	878
Volumes repaired,	3,982
Notices sent for overdue books,	1,098
Total registration,	14,929

CLASSIFIED CIRCULATION BY MONTHS.

	Fiction.	Juveniles.	Biography and History.	Travel.	Arts and Sciences.	Literature and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Religion.	Periodicals.	Total.
April,	3,834	1,314	492	251	312	267	180	100	517	7,267
May,	3,123	979	356	202	240	194	161	93	457	5,805
June,	3,407	1,094	302	191	184	198	147	44	409	5,976
July,	3,482	1,020	286	149	179	221	98	38	345	5,818
August,	3,520	1,058	259	160	225	218	101	34	403	5,978
Sept.,	3,702	1,048	373	184	294	259	123	55	434	6,472
Oct.,	4,200	1,535	557	239	378	356	234	101	600	8,200
Nov.,	4,068	1,481	631	242	368	336	254	116	562	8,058
Dec.,	3,921	1,632	627	231	328	349	247	83	544	7,962
Jan.,	4,385	1,606	666	262	393	355	259	95	618	8,639
Feb.,	4,343	1,541	612	302	389	423	236	109	603	8,558
March,	4,548	1,775	630	367	442	443	278	122	698	9,303
	46,533	16,083	5,791	2,780	3,732	3,619	2,318	990	6,190	88,036
Per ct.,	52.86	18.27	6.58	3.16	4.24	4.11	2.63	1.12	7.03	100.00

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY.

	BOOKS.	PAMS.
American Congregational Association		1
Aquilar Free Library Society.....		1
Armour Institute of Technology.....		1
Baillie's Institution Free Library, Glasgow, Scotland.....		1
Balch, Thomas W., Philadelphia.....	1	
Bangor Public Library.....		1
Benton, J. H.....		1
Berry, Stephen.....		11
Bonney, Mrs. Percival.....		103
Boston Public Library.....		11
Boston Record Commissioners.....	1	
Boston Young Men's Christian Union.....	1	
Bowdoin College.....		7
Bradford, J. M.....		42
Brooklyn, (N. Y.) Library.....		2
Brown, F. E.....		1
Bunker Hill Monument Association.....	2	1

	BOOKS.	PAMS.
Bureau of American Republics.....		1
Cadbury, Richard, Birmingham, England. ...	1	
Cambridge (England) Public Free Library....		1
Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library.....		2
Chicago Civil Service Commission.....	1	
Chicago Public Library.....		1
Chicago University.....	1	
Cincinnati Public Library.....		1
Cleveland Public Library.....		1
Colby University.....		3
Cousins, Rev. E. M.....		1
Crocker, Uriel H.	1	
Dana, Dr. I. T..	47	3320
Dover Public Library.....		2
Dresser, Horatio W., Cambridge, Mass.....	1	
Drummond, J. H.....	1	1
Fenn, Rev. W. H.....		72
Fessenden, Gen. Francis.....		104
Field Columbian Museum, Chicago.....		5
Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, Vermont..		1
Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.....		1
Furman, Alfred A.	1	
Gilliot, Miss Fannie.....		27
Gilman, Mrs. H. A.....		31
Goold, Nathan.....	1	1
Gray, E. A.....		130
Green, Dr. S. A., Boston.....	2	48
Greene, J. L., Hartford	1	
Harmon, George A.....		1
Harvard Medical Alumni Association.....		1
Harvard University.....	1	2
Helena Public Library.....		3
Hoar, George F.....		1
Hoboken Free Public Library		2
Hobson, Miss Harriet		11
Indian Rights Association.....		7
International Arbitration Committee....	1.	

	BOOKS.	PAMS.
Interstate Commerce Committee.....	1	
Jersey City Free Public Library.....		13
Lancaster (Mass.) Town Library.....		1
Lawrence, Samuel C.....		1
Lawrence Public Library.....		5
Libby & Smith.....		47
Loring, Short & Harmon.....	9	253
Los Angeles Public Library.....		1
Lynn Public Library.....		1
McCormick, Cyrus H., Chicago.....	1	
Maine General Hospital.....		1
Maine Industrial School.....		1
Maine Medical Association.....		1
Maine State College.....	1	
Maine State Library.....	10	1
Malden Public Library.....		1
Manchester (N. H.) City Library.....		1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology.....		3
Meserve, Dr. A. P.....		1
Minneapolis Public Library.....		4
Munson, Myron A.....		1
New England Historic Gen. Society.....		1
New England Society, Brooklyn, N. Y.....		1
New York Farmers.....		1
New York Public Library.....		2
North Adams Public Library.....		1
Ohio State Library.....	1	
Palmer, M. G.....		7
Pennsylvania, University of.....		1
Peoria Public Library.....		1
Philadelphia City Institute.....		1
Philadelphia Free Library.....		1
Pierce, Lewis.....	1	
Pierce, Marshall.....		104
Polytechnic Society of Louisville, Kentucky..		1
Portland, City of.....	2	
Portland Fraternity.....		1

	BOOKS.	PAMS.
Portland (Or.) Library Association.....		5
Poughkeepsie Public Library.....		1
Poulsen, Rev. I. K.....	1	
Prescott, Mrs. Elizabeth.....	1	
Rand, E. M.....	1	
Reed, T. B.....	33	
Reynold's Library, Rochester, N. Y.....		1
Ricker, Hiram, Poland, Me.....	1	
Rockland Public Library.....		1
St. Louis Mercantile Library Ass'n.....		1
Salem Public Library.....		1
San Francisco Mercantile Library Ass'n.....		1
Scranton Public Library.....		11
Seattle Library Commission.....		1
Shalam, Trustee for Children of.....		1
Smith, Dr. Chas. D.....		1
Smithsonian Institution.....	8	2
Springfield (Mass.) City Library.....		15
Stackpole, Mary F.....		42
Stevens, W. H.....	1	
Stokes, Anson Phelps.....	1	
Sturtevant Prelimnean Library.....		1
Sweat, Mrs. L. D. M.....	7	62
Syracuse Central Library.....		1
Thaxter, S. W.....	4	
Trask, Samuel.....	2	
Tulane University of Louisiana.....		1
United States Government.....	119	144
Unknown.....	8	3
Walker, Alfred.....		1
Wheeler, J., Washington, D. C.....		1
Wieren, Georg von.....	6	
Wilmington Institute Free Library.....		1
Woodbury, Mrs. J. C.....	1	
Yale University.....		2

PERIODICALS GIVEN TO THE LIBRARY.

American Homes.	Maine Statesman.
Board of Trade Journal.	Masonic Token.
Book Reviews.	New Church Messenger.
Bulletin Mensuel.	New Church Review.
Catalogue of U. S. Public Documents.	Notes on Books.
Christian Mirror.	Notes on New Books.
Christian Register.	Official Gazette of U. S. Patent Office.
Christian Science Journal.	Open Court.
Columbian.	Portland Daily Advertiser.
Congressional Record.	Portland Daily Press.
Cook's Excursionist.	Portland Evening Express.
Daily Eastern Argus.	Portland Globe.
Every Other Sunday.	Power and Transmission.
Harvard Monthly.	Propriété Industrielle.
Holy Cross Purple.	Sanitary Inspector.
Labour and Copartnership.	Tenn. University Magazine.
Literary News.	Twentieth Century.
Maine Coast Cottager.	Zion's Advocate.





7733
Z 733

.P69

1897

Portland Me.
Public Lib

